Resolute Action (CoBRA), As part of the Central Reserve Police Force. The locations and time schedule for raising these Battalions is given below:

2008	:	2 – Chhattisgarh and Orissa
2009-10	:	4 – Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra
2010-11	:	4 – Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and West Bengal

Low Squadron strength of IAF

*53. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the squadron strength of Indian Air Force (IAF) is at an all time low with only 32 fighter units operational against the sanctioned strength of 39.5 squadrons;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Induction of new aircraft and replacement of existing aircraft as well as enhancing operational capabilities to meet the prevailing threat scenario is an ongoing process. The Government is fully aware of the needs of the Air Force and has taken a number of steps to fulfil their requirements. The air Force had a strength of 32 combat squadrons at the beginning of the Eleventh Plan against the authorised strength of 39.5 squadrons. With the planned induction of Su-30, Jaguar, Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA), Fifth Generation Fighter Aircraft (FGFA) and the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) during the period 2007-2022, the strength at the end of Eleventh, Twelveth and Thirteenth Plan periods is expected to increase to 35.5, 35 and 42 squadrons respectively. In addition, steps have been taken to upgrade the existing MiG-21, MiG-27, MiG-29, Jaguar and Mirage-2000 aircraft. Moreover, the induction of force multiplier like AWACS and Flight Refuelling Aircraft together with advanced weapon systems will greatly enhance the combat capability of the Indian Air Force.

Creating anti-Maoist force 'COBRA'

*54. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to create a specialized anti-Maoist force 'COBRA' on the lines of 'Greyhounds';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this project is proposed to be funded by the Centre; and

(d) the time-frame within which this force would be deployed in Orissa and Jharkhand to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Government has sanctioned 10 Commando Battalions for Resolute